

*[Signature]*

**REQUEST  
for  
CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE)  
TRANSMITTAL**

Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000,  
provided for continued examination of a utility or plant application  
filed on or after June 8, 1995.  
See the American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA).

Application Number	09/842,668
Filing Date	April 27, 2001
First Named Inventor	Hisakazu KOBAYASHI et al.
Group Art Unit	2613
Examiner Name	Richard J. Lee
Attorney Docket Number	2001_0512A
Confirmation No.	7703

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application.

**NOTE:** 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(d) (PTO/SB/29) instead of a RCE to be eligible for the patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See Changes to Application Examination and Provisional Application Practice, Final Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 50092 (Aug. 16, 2000); Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14865 (Mar. 20, 2000), 1233 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 47 (Apr. 11, 2000), which established RCE practice.

1. Submission required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114

- a.  Previously submitted:
  - i.  Please enter and consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 previously filed on March 21, 2005
  - ii.  Please consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on
  - iii.  Other

b.  Enclosed:

- i.  Amendment/Reply
- ii.  Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)
- iii.  Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)
- iv.  Other

2. Miscellaneous

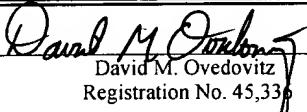
- a.  Suspension of action on the above-identified application is required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c) for a period of months. (period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) required).
- b.  Other

3. Fees (The RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) is required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 when the RCE is filed.)

- a.  The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No.
  - i.  RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e)
  - ii.  Extension of time fee (37 C.F.R. § 1.136 and § 1.17)
  - iii.  Other
- b.  Check in the amount of \$10.00 enclosed

THE COMMISSIONER IS AUTHORIZED  
TO CHARGE ANY DEFICIENCY IN THE  
FEES FOR THIS PAPER TO DEPOSIT  
ACCOUNT NO. 23-0975

4. CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS

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April 11, 2005